

1931.

COUNTY OF BANFF.

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Local Government (Scotland) Act 1929.

SECOND

ANNUAL REPORT

BY THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
SANITARY INSPECTOR,  
and  
VETERINARY INSPECTOR



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# COUNTY OF BANFF.

## REPORT BY THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH For the Year 1931.

### VITAL STATISTICS.

The **Population** of the County of Banff, as ascertained by the Census taken in April, 1931, was 54,835, of which 24,828 pertained to the Landward Area, and 30,007 to the Burghs. The population of each of the Burghs was as follows:—Aberchirder 868, Banff 3,489, Buckie 8,688, Aberlour 1,175, Cullen 1,688, Dufftown 1,454, Findochty 1,675, Keith 4,424, Macduff 3,276, Portknockie 1,619, and Portsoy 1,651. For statistical purposes, the Registrar General estimated the population of the County (including Burghs) in the middle of the year as 55,126.

The **Births** registered in the County in the year 1931 numbered 1,108 giving an annual Birth Rate of 20.1 per 1,000 of population. The actual number of Births registered has been steadily falling during the past ten years. In 1921 there were registered 1,461 births and in the following years the numbers were 1,424, 1,391, 1,298, 1,268, 1,309, 1,205, 1,208, 1,164, 1,145, and 1,108, so that it will be seen the actual Births registered in 1931 were 353 less than in 1921. The number of Illegitimate Births registered in 1931 was 152 or 13.7 per cent of the total Births. In the preceding year the Illegitimate Births numbered 170, and were 14.8 per cent. of the total Births.

The **Deaths** registered in 1931 amounted to 758, giving an annual Death Rate of 13.8 per 1,000 of population. In the preceding year the actual number of deaths was 746 with an annual Death Rate of 13.6 per 1,000.

The causes of death registered in 1931 are shown in Appendix I.

The **Infantile Mortality Rate** for the County was 88, or in other words, 88 children died out of every thousand children born before completing their first year. During the past ten years the Infantile Mortality Rate for the County as a whole has been 104, 84, 101, 73, 83, 67, 104, 64, 74, and 76.

The Rate for 1931 in the Landward Area, and each of

the Burghs is shewn in the following table, and the subject is further dealt with in the Section devoted to Maternity and Child Welfare.

	Population.	Total Births.	Birth Rate.	Total Deaths.	Death Rate.	Infantile Mortality Rate.
Landward ...	24880	526	21.1	304	12.3	72
Aberchirder	873	17	19.5	10	11.4	59
Aberlour ...	1166	7	6.0	16	13.7	142
Banff .....	3444	68	19.7	67	19.4	117
Buckie .....	8771	190	21.7	118	13.5	115
Cullen .....	1718	30	17.4	20	11.6	53
Dufftown ...	1459	23	15.8	21	14.4	Nil.
Findochty ...	1712	30	17.5	23	13.4	166
Keith .....	4454	87	19.5	73	16.3	114
Macduff ...	3333	65	19.5	51	15.3	46
Portknochie	1642	32	19.4	21	12.7	31
Portsoy .....	1674	33	19.7	34	20.2	242
County .....	55126	1108	20.1	758	13.8	88

The Headings of the various sections of the remaining portion of the Report are in accordance with the instructions of the Department of Health to Medical Officers in the preparation of their Reports.

A statement of the general inquiries he has made during the year, of any special enquiries as to sanitary matters, and of any matters as to which he has given advice or granted certificates, including any action as to offensive trades.

Housing—Houses unfit for habitation.

Water Supplies—Water supplies to the Special Districts.

Scavenging—Newmill Special Scavenging District.

Burial Grounds—Investigation of the state of Boyndie Churchyard.

Bacteriological Services for the County.

The incidence of all infectious diseases, and particularly typhoid fever in Buckie.

A statement as to the quality of the water supplies and the sufficiency of such supplies for all domestic and sanitary purposes.

There are eight Special Water Supply Districts in the

County, viz., Crovie, Gardenstown, Whitehills, Fordyce, Portgordon, Tomintoul, Newmill and Crannoch. There is a sufficiency of water in all of those districts with the exception of Whitehills, in which, on account of the introduction of modern sanitary conveniences, the water supply has proved insufficient. The District Council has meantime under consideration the augmentation of the supply from sources in the neighbourhood of the existing supply. In regard to quality, the supplies to Whitehills, Crovie, Gardenstown, Fordyce, Tomintoul and Crannoch are obtained from springs situated in uncultivated land, but in the case of Portgordon and Newmill the supplies are obtained from springs in land under cultivation. In the case of Newmill, the District Council is meantime making arrangements to secure that the land is not cultivated but in the case of Portgordon the District Council, after inspecting the gathering area, has taken no action.

A statement as to the efficiency, or otherwise, of the drainage system and of the methods of sewage purification and disposal; and any suggestions for their improvement

There are five Special Drainage Districts, viz., Gardenstown, Portgordon, Whitehills, Tomintoul and Fordyce. With the exception of Fordyce, these districts have proper drainage systems and satisfactory methods of sewage disposal. The village of Fordyce was formed into a special drainage district many years ago but did not have a proper drainage system introduced. As modern sanitary conveniences are being created, the introduction of a proper drainage system should be considered.

The villages of Newmill and Cornhill have no proper drainage system and the formation of these into Special Districts should receive attention.

An account of the presence or absence of pollution of rivers or streams within the area, the sources and nature of any such pollution, and any action taken to check it.

The pollution of the Isla from distillery effluents and the sewage of the burgh of Keith continues as reported in previous reports.

No action was taken in the matter during the year.

The Burgh of Dufftown made some improvement in their sewage purification works to diminish the pollution of the Malt Kiln Burn.



An account of any proceedings under the Housing (Scotland) Acts, 1925 and 1930, dealing specifically with (i.) the sufficiency of working-class dwellings, (ii.) the habitability of existing dwellings and the action taken to deal with defective or uninhabitable dwellings, (iii.) any proposals under consideration or contemplated for dealing with clearance or improvement areas under Part I. of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1930, and (iv.) the action taken where instances of overcrowding have been ascertained or suspected.

During the year the question of housing in the landward area continued to receive much attention. The Sanitary Inspector made a further survey of the housing conditions and now reports that there are 35 houses unfit for habitation and 142 houses in a condition that at reasonable cost could be made habitable.

Three new houses were erected during the year by private enterprise.

The attention of the committee is again directed to the housing conditions in the villages of Gardenstown, Whitehills and Portgordon, where there is a considerable amount of sub-letting, so that houses originally built for one family are occupied by two or more families.

The houses unfit for habitation are mainly in the rural areas where houses are required to allow of these houses being closed. Meantime they continue to be occupied though unfit for habitation.

The details of the housing survey, the action taken under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, the Housing (Rural Workers) Act, are to be found in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

An account, with statistics, of the incidence of infectious diseases, both notifiable and non-notifiable, and of any special action taken to deal with influenza, pneumonia, measles, whooping-cough, encephalitis lethargica, infective jaundice, psittacosis, and other infectious disease. Reference should be made to arrangements for the supply of diphtheria anti-toxin and to any use made of the Schick and Dick tests of susceptibility to diphtheria and scarlet fever and of any methods of artificial immunisation against these diseases.

### Scarlet Fever.

There were notified throughout the County 90 cases of this disease, more than half of which occurred in the Banff District, mainly in the Parishes of Gamrie and Alvah. In the Parish of Gamrie the cases occurred either in Gardenstown or Crovie or in the Landward area, in the neighbourhood of Bracoden School. The outbreak commenced about the end of August, and was characterised by an unusual prevalence of sore throats affecting not only the children at school, but persons beyond school age. On two occasions



Bracoden School was closed, and during the period of closure, the scarlet fever practically disappeared, as also the prevalence of sore throat illnesses, but on reopening, the sore throats again appeared, accompanied by cases of genuine scarlet fever. By the month of December the epidemic had ceased, but sporadic cases continued to occur during the current year.

In the Parish of Alyah there was a small outbreak associated with pupils attending Dunlugas School. After dealing with the first cases of the outbreak, one of which had been regarded as measles, the disease reappeared on two occasions due to prolonged infectivity in some of the patients that had been treated in Hospital.

In the Keith District there were only 4 cases throughout the whole year. The distribution of the remaining cases was as follows:—Banff, 4; Buckie, 11; Cullen, 2; Findochty, 1; Keith, 12, and Macduff, 1.

There was one death from scarlet fever—that of an infant whose scarlet fever illness was complicated by burns.

### **Diphtheria.**

There were notified only 20 cases of diphtheria compared with 95 in the preceding year. There was no epidemic in any part of the County, and the cases were distributed as follows:—Banff District, 3; Keith District, 1; Banff, 4; Buckie, 3; Cullen, 6, and 1 in each of Dufftown and Macduff.

Diphtheria was the registered cause of one death.

### **Erysipelas.**

Notifications—12. Deaths—0. Two cases were treated in Hospital.

### **Puerperal Fever.**

Notifications—1. Deaths—0. This case was treated in the Chalmers Hospital, Banff.

### **Ophthalmia Neonatorum.**

Notifications—2.

Both infants were treated in the Chalmers Hospital. There was no impairment of vision in either case.

### **Chickenpox.**

Notifications—37. Deaths—0.

These were all treated at home.

## Enteric Fever.

During the year there were notified 38 cases of enteric fever, of which 2 occurred in Aberchirder, 1 in Portknockie, 2 in the Keith District, and 1 in the Banff District associated with an outbreak of 32 cases in Buckie, which was reported to the Department of Health as follows :—

On Friday evening, 28th August, a message was received from a Doctor in Buckie that a patient of his, who had been sent to the Royal Infirmary, Aberdeen, on 23rd August had been admitted to the City Hospital, Aberdeen, on Friday, 28th August, suffering from typhoid fever.

A little later another Doctor in Buckie telephoned that he had a case of typhoid fever in Buckie, and that he had several patients on whom he was in attendance who presented the symptoms of typhoid fever, but in a less marked degree than the one notified. A visit was made to Buckie on Saturday, 29th August, when the notified case was found to be a severe one of typhoid fever, and arrangements were made for her admission to the Campbell Hospital. Other four patients were visited the same day, but as the symptoms in these cases were ill defined, it was arranged to have bacteriological confirmation before formal notification.

On Sunday, 30th August, the same Doctor phoned he had seen that day two patients, one of whom had definite symptoms of typhoid fever, and the other less definite symptoms. A visit was immediately made to Buckie, when the definite case was removed to Hospital, and the less definite case retained at home for further observation. The circumstances of all these cases were carefully investigated. It was found that the dates of sickening showed that they were probably due to a common source. The milk supplies were investigated but nothing found to warrant any action being taken in regard to milk.

It was noted that these cases were all in a part of the town that had a water supply distinct from the general water supply of the Burgh, and as this supply was believed to be possibly liable to pollution, the Burgh Authorities immediately cut off this supply, and put the District on to the supply provided for the Burgh generally.

On Monday, 31st August, bacteriological confirmation was received of the diagnosis made of the cases seen on 29th, and on that day 6 patients suffering from typhoid fever were removed to Hospital.

Visits were made to Buckie on 1st and 2nd September when all dairies supplying milk to the infected families were visited but nothing found. No further cases were reported till Saturday, 5th September, when 4 cases of typhoid fever

were notified, all, *with one exception*, in that part of Buckie supplied by the water under suspicion. The patient residing in the area outwith the suspected water supply proved interesting. It was found that this patient—a girl of 7 years—had spent at least 3 weeks of the school holiday with her grandmother in Drybridge—that she had returned to Buckie on Sunday, 23rd August, and sickened on Thursday, 27th August, thus indicating an infection outwith Buckie. The home of the grandmother in Drybridge was visited. Enquiries were made regarding any illnesses among the child's playmates and others about Drybridge, but nothing found. It was, however, found that in the grandmother's house there was an elderly woman who had come to reside here about the middle of May last, and as no explanation of the child's typhoid could be found in a "missed illness" it was considered a possibility this woman might be a typhoid carrier.

It was arranged that the Health Visitor in Buckie visit this house to get a specimen of the faeces of this woman for bacteriological examination. She did this on the 6th September, and on the 8th September a report was received from the Laboratory, The City Hospital, Aberdeen, that the faeces contained *B. typhosus*, thus showing this woman to be a carrier, additional evidence of which was found in her blood giving a positive widal's reaction in a dilution of 1—200.

The finding of this carrier strengthened the suspicion that the water supply was the source of the typhoid outbreak in Buckie as the supply to the affected area in Buckie is drawn from the neighbourhood of Drybridge, and there was found a close association between the domestic arrangements of this house where the carrier resided, and points of possible pollution of the water supply.

Cases continued to be notified up to the 5th October, all of whom resided within the area served by the suspected water supply. One case occurred at Inchgower Distillery, in a boy who was believed to have been infected by a playmate at school, who resided within the affected area. Including this case, and the case notified in Aberdeen, 34 persons suffered from enteric fever. The ages of those affected ranged from 5 years to 57. All the patients, with one exception, were removed to the Campbell Hospital, Portsoy, for treatment. Two patients died in Hospital.

At the time the typhoid carrier was discovered at Drybridge she was not recognised as one who had previously been associated with previous outbreaks of enteric fever, but about a fortnight later, it was possible to identify her as a

person associated with an outbreak of typhoid fever in the County of Aberdeen in 1916, and an outbreak in Aberchirder in 1924.

### **Dysentery.**

Notifications—74. Deaths—0.

With the exception of 5 cases in the Banff District, and 7 cases in Aberchirder, all the cases of dysentery occurred either in the Burgh of Keith, and the surrounding districts, including the Milton of Rothiemay. Some of the cases that occurred at the Milton of Rothiemay were particularly severe, but those in Keith, and the immediate surrounding Parishes, were mild.

Dysentery seems to have become endemic in this area, and is mainly of the Sonne type. The disease has not been spread by milk or from any common source. It appears to spread from household to household, and particularly among children at school.

One case was treated in Hospital.

### **Infantile Paralysis.**

Notifications—1. Deaths—0.

The notified case occurred in Gardenstown, and as there was considerable paralysis, the case was sent for treatment to the City Hospital, Aberdeen, where it made a remarkably good recovery.

### **Influenzal Pneumonia and Pneumonia.**

Notifications—97. Deaths from all forms of pneumonia—55.

Twelve patients suffering from pneumonia were treated in Hospital.

### **Puerperal Pyrexia.**

Notifications—6. Deaths—0.

These cases were all treated in their own homes.

No special action was taken to deal with any other diseases.

Supplies of diphtheria antitoxin for the use of medical practitioners are stocked in Banff, Portsoy, Cullen, Buckie, Aberchirder, Keith, and Dufftown.

No methods of active immunisation against scarlet fever or diphtheria have been in use with the exception of the nursing staff at the Infectious Diseases Hospitals who have been immunised against diphtheria and enteric fever.

The following table shews the incidence of notifiable infectious disease in the two landward areas and the burghs during 1931 :—

	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Erysipelas.	Puerperal Fever.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Chickenpox.	Enteric Fever.	Dysentery.	Infantile Paralysis.	Polio-Encephalitis.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Acute Primary Pneumonia.	Acute Influenzal Pneumonia.	Puerperal Pyrexia.
Banff District	53	3	2	1	...	2	1	5	1	...	...	16	4	1
Keith District	4	1	2	...	...	23	2	37	...	...	...	12	2	...
Aberchirder -	...	...	...	...	...	6	2	7	...	...	...	...	...	...
Aberlour -	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Banff -	4	4	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	15	2	1
Buckie -	11	3	2	...	...	...	32	1	...	...	...	14	7	1
Cullen -	2	6	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dufftown -	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Findochty -	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...
Keith -	12	...	1	...	...	1	...	24	...	...	...	10	...	...
Macduff -	1	1	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	5	2	3
Portknockie -	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	3	...	...
Portsoy -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
COUNTY -	90	20	12	1	1	37	38	74	1	...	...	79	18	6

#### Information and statistics regarding

##### (a) the work done

- (1) for the treatment and prevention of tuberculosis;
- (2) for the treatment and prevention of venereal diseases;
- (3) under maternity and child welfare and school health schemes;
- (4) for the medical care and nursing of the sick poor; and
- (b) hospital and ambulance facilities available for the residents in the authority's area.

#### Tuberculosis.

During the past fifty years or more, the incidence of pulmonary tuberculosis in Scotland has been steadily declining. In the year 1880 the death rate per 1000 of population from



pulmonary tuberculosis or phthisis was 2.18 and in 1930 the rate had fallen to .62 per 1000, or less than one-third of the rate for 1880.

In the past ten years there has been the same decline in the mortality, and in this decline this County has participated, as shewn by the following figures :—

DEATH RATE PER 1000 OF POPULATION.

	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.
Scotland	.81	.83	.82	.80	.76	.69	.60	.68	.67	.62
Banffshire	.61	.62	.61	.72	.40	.65	.68	.50	.53	.36

During 1931 there was received a total of 26 notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis. This number is the same as in the preceding year and is the lowest on record. It is only about one-third of the number of notifications received when compulsory notification of this disease came into operation in 1914.

The distribution of these cases in the landward areas and the various burghs in the County is shewn in the following table. For purposes of comparison, the average number of notifications received in three preceding quinquennial periods is also shewn :—

	1931.	Average for period 1925-1930.	Average for period 1921-1925.	Average for period 1916-1920.
Banff District	7	8.8	10.3	15.8
Keith District	3	7.2	7.6	9.8
Aberchirder	2	0.6	2.3	2.8
Aberlour	—	0.8	0.8	0.6
Banff	1	3.0	4.0	4.0
Buckie	2	3.2	8.2	9.8
Cullen	1	0.6	1.0	2.0
Dufftown	—	0.6	0.4	1.6
Findochty	2	1.6	1.4	3.4
Keith	3	3.4	3.0	6.2
Macduff	1	1.4	3.0	6.0
Portknockie	2	1.0	1.4	3.8
Portsoy	2	1.2	1.0	2.4
COUNTY	26	33.4	44.2	68.2

Of the 26 notifications received 15 were males and 11 were females.

The number of deaths registered as due to pulmonary tuberculosis was 21, compared with 20 in the preceding year, which was the lowest on record. The average number of deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis registered in the three preceding quinquennial periods was 29, 34.8, and 45.

According to age, the notified cases and deaths in 1931 were distributed as follows :—

	<i>Notified cases.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>
Under 1 year .....	—	—
1 year and under 5 years .....	—	—
5 years and under 15 years .....	—	1
15 years and under 25 years .....	8	5
25 years and under 45 years .....	14	8
45 years and under 65 years .....	4	6
65 years and upwards .....	—	1

In addition to these cases of pulmonary tuberculosis 25 notifications were received of other forms of tuberculosis, including superficial glands 12, abdominal 2, spine 2, bones and joints 2, other organs 6, and lupus 1.

The number of deaths from these forms of tuberculosis was 8 as compared with 14, 13, 20, 12, 16, and 31 in the immediately preceding years.

**Institutional Treatment.** — The institutional treatment for cases of pulmonary tuberculosis consists of 10 beds in a special pavilion at the Chalmers Hospital, Banff, and such beds at the Turner Memorial Hospital, Keith, as are not required for the isolation of infectious diseases from the Burgh of Keith.

Cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis requiring operative treatment or treatment in an institution are accommodated in the main building of Chalmers Hospital, where it has always been possible to get the necessary beds.

The Trustees of the Rose-Innes Hospital, Aberchirder, have recently erected two shelters in the grounds of the hospital. These are very suitable for either pulmonary or non-pulmonary cases and during suitable weather they are both occupied.

During 1930 arrangements were made whereby any case of surgical tuberculosis requiring orthopaedic treatment could be sent to Woodend Hospital, Aberdeen.

The Committee has also under consideration the question of utilising beds at the Rose Innes Hospital, Aberchirder, meantime used for infectious diseases, for cases of surgical tuberculosis after operation or observation in the Chalmers Hospital. The accommodation in the Rose-Innes Hospital is better adapted for such cases than the wards in the Chalmers Hospital.

The following table shows the number of cases which



received treatment under the Tuberculosis Scheme in Sanatoria or other Institutions during the year:—

NUMBER OF PATIENTS.

			In Institutions on January 1.	Admitted during the year.	Discharged during the year.	Died in the Institutions.		In Institutions on December 31.
Pulmonary	Adults	Males	5	10	8	...	...	7
		Females	4	10	4	3	...	7
	Children	Males	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Females	...	1	1	...	...	...
Non-Pulmonary	Adults	Males	2	3	3	...	...	2
		Females	1	5	5	1	...	...
	Children	Males	...	5	5	...	...	...
		Females	...	4	3	...	...	1
TOTAL    ...    ...			12	38	29	4	...	17

The Institutions in which those patients were treated were the Chalmers Hospital, Banff, the Turner Memorial Hospital, Keith, the Rose-Innes Hospital, Aberchirder, and Woodend Hospital, Aberdeen.

**Domiciliary Treatment.**—Twelve patients were in receipt of special benefits under the Tuberculosis Scheme. These included the provision of special foods such as milk, beef, and eggs.

**Tuberculosis Order.**—In terms of this Order there were dealt with 89 animals, of which 12 suffered from tuberculosis of the udder. In the preceding 6 years, the numbers dealt with were, respectively:—86 with 2 udders affected; 100 with 4 udders affected; 89 with 4 udders affected; 76 with 1 udder affected; 57 with 11 udders affected; and 17 with 2 udders affected.

For the purpose of **The Public Health (Venereal Diseases) Regulations (Scotland), 1916** this County continues to be one of the partners in the joint scheme for the City of Aberdeen and the North-Eastern Counties. Out-patient clinics are held practically daily at the Royal Infirmary, Aberdeen. In addition to these facilities for treatment,

out-patient clinics are held twice weekly at the Chalmers Hospital, Banff. Monthly statements are received from these two institutions giving particulars of the number of new patients who have attended for treatment, and the number of attendances of both new and old patients. The following table gives the particulars for the year in regard to the Royal Infirmary, Aberdeen, and the Chalmers Hospital, Banff :—

### Royal Infirmary, Aberdeen.

	Total number of new cases.	In-Patients admitted.	Attendance at V.D. Clinics.	Number of Doses of Special Drugs supplied to Medical Practitioners.	Laboratory Examinations for Banffshire cases.
January .....	7	—	35	15	36
February .....	—	—	18	22	30
March .....	1	1	35	—	35
April .....	2	—	20	42	37
May .....	2	—	25	21	29
June .....	—	—	17	—	30
July .....	3	—	25	4	36
August .....	1	—	20	65	22
September .....	—	—	8	26	39
October .....	—	—	10	—	20
November .....	2	—	10	—	34
December .....	1	1	9	42	25

### Chalmers Hospital, Banff.

January .....	2	—	59	—	—
February .....	3	1	53	—	—
March .....	4	1	63	—	—
April .....	—	—	74	—	—
May .....	3	1	86	—	—
June .....	2	—	107	—	—
July .....	2	1	121	—	—
August .....	—	—	83	—	—
September .....	4	—	96	—	—
October .....	2	—	100	—	—
November .....	1	—	101	—	—
December .....	2	1	93	—	—

From the above tables it will be seen that 19 new cases attended at the Royal Infirmary, Aberdeen. In the preceding nine years the numbers were respectively 15, 3, 9, 16, 18, 10, 13, 10, and 11.

At the Chalmers Hospital, Banff, the number of new cases in 1931 was 25. In the preceding seven years the numbers were respectively 23, 12, 14, 17, 24, 19, and 20.

These statistics shew that advantage is being taken of the facilities for treatment provided at these institutions.

As there is no system of notification in operation in connection with the venereal diseases, there is no proper information available as to the actual incidence of these diseases. Some authorities have asked for a system of notification for their areas but so far powers have not been given them, it being argued that persons suffering from these diseases would avoid seeking treatment if it involved having their cases reported. There seems to be very little in this objection. The same objections were urged at one time against the notification of tuberculosis.

There are circumstances in which more powers are required. Information is sometimes obtained from patients that goes to show the existence of an active source of infection in a district, yet when the suspected person is asked to attend for treatment there is no response and nothing done.

**Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme.**—During the year under review there has been practically no change in the services rendered by the District Nursing Associations through their District Nurses, who act as Health Visitors for Maternity and Child Welfare purposes in their nursing areas. The Parishes of Gamrie, Alvah, Forglen, Deskford, Inverkeithny, and the greater portion of Grange still remain unprovided with a nursing service, and no health visiting is done in these parishes. In the Burghs of Cullen and Portknockie there are no Nursing Associations, but the health visiting work is done by the whole-time Health Visitor from Buckie. The Burgh of Buckie has now two District Nurses, and it is hoped that full advantage will be taken of their services as Maternity Nurses, and thus develop an improved maternity service.

A Child Welfare Clinic has been in existence in Buckie for many years. This Clinic meets weekly throughout the year, with an average weekly attendance of 30 children. Similar Clinics were established during the year in Macduff, Banff, Aberchirder, Keith and Portsoy. They are held monthly. A Doctor is in attendance, who in addition to seeing the children, gives a short "health talk" at every meeting to the mothers. The average monthly attendance of children is as follows:—Banff 16, Macduff 23, Aberchirder 18, Keith 37, and Portsoy 19. The success of these Clinics is entirely due to the zeal and enthusiasm of the

Voluntary Health Associations who have undertaken their management, and to whom the best thanks of the County Council is due.

Institutional Treatment for Children suffering from malnutrition, etc., is secured at the Chalmers Hospital, the Seafield Cottage Hospital, and other local Hospitals.

Institutional Treatment of women suffering from complications of pregnancy or confinement or whose home circumstances are unsatisfactory is provided at the Maternity Hospital, Aberdeen, the Chalmers Hospital, and the Seafield Cottage Hospital.

The following are the statistics required to be furnished to the Department of Health by the Medical Officer in his annual report, but it has to be kept in mind, that in regard to the home visitation of infants and mothers, the statistics refer only to those areas in which there are Health Visitors—

1. *Births.*

- (a) Number registered—Legitimate 956, Illegitimate 152.  
(b) Number notified 800.

2. *Infantile Mortality.*

- (a) Number of deaths 97.  
(b) Rate per 1000 births 88.  
(c) Number of deaths classified according to age groups and causes of death.

Age Groups :—

Under 1 week .....	26
1 week and under 4 weeks .....	17
4 weeks and under 3 months .....	18
3 months and under 6 months .....	13
6 months and under 12 months .....	23

Causes of Death :—

Whooping cough .....	5	Congenital Malformations	5
Other epidemic diseases	7	Premature birth .....	24
Meningitis .....	1	Atrophy and debility ...	11
Pneumonia .....	21	Nervous diseases .....	5
Bronchitis .....	6	All other causes .....	9
Diarrhoea .....	3		

3. *Maternal Mortality.*

- (a) Number of deaths resulting from miscarriage or child birth, 5.  
(b) Number of deaths resulting from puerperal sepsis, Nil.

4. *Report under Midwives (Scotland) Act, 1915.*

No intimation of "Intention to practise" has been received.

5. *Home Visitation.*

	*1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
(1) <i>Infants—</i>																	
Number Visited, . . . . .	25	65	18	58	—	5	32	32	83	46	4	29	23	58	52	52	55
Total Visits, . . . . .	213	356	335	898	2800	50	401	273	453	460	99	347	236	757	585	1267	302
(2) <i>Children (1-5)—</i>																	
Number Visited, . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Visits, . . . . .	206	438	361	536	1311	56	255	282	502	453	115	470	222	237	239	572	72
(3) <i>Expectant Mothers—</i>																	
Number Visited, . . . . .	18	56	18	27	—	4	26	25	86	34	6	19	22	43	34	41	49
Total Visits, . . . . .	53	144	79	82	104	9	114	32	126	66	14	57	33	186	90	84	118
(4) <i>Number of Confinements attended . . . . .</i>	23	61	18	33	—	4	24	27	83	46	4	20	21	54	37	50	47

\*1 Aberlour Association.

2 Banff.

3 Boharm.

4 Boyndie and Banff (Landward).

5 Health Visitor, Buckie.

6 Cabrach.

7 Findochty and Kathven (Eastern) --

8 Inveravon and Glenlivet.

9 Keith Burgh.

10 Keith (Landward) and Botriphnie.

11 Kirkmichael and Tomintoul.

12 Knock, Ordquhill, and Rothiemay.

13 Marnoch

14 Morthel.

15 Portgordon and Ruthven (Western).

16 Portsoy and Fordyce.

17 Mueduff.

7. *Pre-Natal Consultations.* Nil.
8. *Post-Natal and other Consultations.* Nil.
9. *Child Welfare Consultations.*  
A child welfare clinic is held weekly in Buckie and monthly in Banff, Macduff, Aberchirder, Portsoy, and Keith.
10. *Special Treatment Centres.*  
(1) Teeth. (2) Eyes. (3) Other ailments. (4) Ultra violet light clinics. Nil.
11. *Day Nurseries. Kindergartens and Play Centres.* Nil.
12. *Food and Milk.*  
Number of children in respect of whom applications were made, 6.  
Number certified on medical grounds, Nil.  
Number certified as necessitous, 6.
13. *Measles.*  
Number of cases notified, Nil. Number of deaths, Nil.
14. *Whooping Cough.*  
Number of cases notified, Nil. Number of deaths, 9.
15. *Ophthalmic Neonatorum.*—  
See infectious disease section.
16. *Maternity Hospitals.*
  1. Pre-natal cases.
    - (a) Number of cases treated, 11.
    - (b) Statement of conditions found.
      - Hyperemesis, 3.
      - Eclampsia, 2.
      - Albuminuria, 2.
      - Pyclitis, 1.
      - Hæmorrhage, 2.
      - Placenta prævia, 1.
  2. Number admitted on account of unsatisfactory home conditions, 10.
  3. Number admitted for complicated labour, 11.  
The above patients were treated either in the Chalmers Hospital, the Seafeld Cottage Hospital, or Maternity Hospital, Aberdeen.
17. *Homes for Unmarried Mothers before and after Confinement.* Nil.



18. *Hospitals for Sick Children.*

Five children were treated either in the Chalmers Hospital, the Scafield Cottage Hospital, or the Rose-Innes Hospital, Aberchirder.

19. *Convalescent Homes.* Nil.

20. *Boarding-out.* Nil.

21. *Home Helps.* Nil.

22. *Educational.*

Short "talks" on health matters were given to the mothers attending the Child Welfare Clinics at Buckie, Banff, Macduff, Portsoy, Aberchirder, and Keith.

### **The Sick Poor.**

The Parish Medical Officers continue to give medical attendance to the sick poor in their homes as formerly, and by arrangement with the District Nursing Associations, the services of the District Nurses are available for home nursing. Where institutional treatment is required, it is provided at the Scafield Cottage Hospital, Buckie, or at any of the local hospitals in the County or at the Royal Infirmary, Aberdeen.

The supervision of expectant and nursing mothers and of children under five years of age is provided for under the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme in the case of persons having their legal settlement in this County and under the Poor Law Acts in the case of those having their settlement outwith the County.

### **Ambulances.**

For the transport of patients suffering from infectious disease, motor ambulances are provided at the Campbell Hospital, Portsoy, and the Isolation Hospital, Dufftown. At the Rose-Innes Hospital, Aberchirder, and the Turner Memorial Hospital, Keith, there are horse ambulances available both for infectious disease and non-infectious disease cases.

At Buckie, there is a motor ambulance for the transport of sick poor persons to the Scafield Cottage Hospital, and for other purposes.

Stationed at the Chalmers Hospital, Banff, is a motor ambulance, the property of the County Ambulance Committee. This ambulance is available for the transport of patients suffering from disease or accident in any part of the



County but is mainly used for the transport of patients to the Chalmers Hospital.

A statement in regard to the administration of the Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Acts, with particular reference to

- (1) the arrangements made by the authority for bacteriological examination of samples in terms of sections 20 and 21, and notes on any samples examined;

The County Veterinary Surgeon and all Veterinary Surgeons practising in the county may send samples to the Laboratory, The City Hospital, Aberdeen. There is no restriction as to number or nature of the samples they may send. See Appendix III. for return of bacteriological work done for the county during 1931.

- (2) any action taken in connection with milk consigned from other areas, or the detection of dirty milk (section 4 (3) of the Act of 1914);

No action was taken in connection with milk consigned from other areas or the detection of dirty milk from other areas. For the detection of dirty milk in the county, see Veterinary Surgeon's report.

- (3) any outbreak, not previously reported, which has been spread by milk, or milk products;

There was no outbreak of any infectious disease due to milk.

An account of the work done under section 43 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, for the inspection of meat and other articles of food, and a statement of work done or of arrangements that ought yet to be made under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations (Scotland), 1930, observations on slaughter-houses, imported food, food inspection, and particulars of the sanitary condition of premises where foods are manufactured, prepared, stored, or exposed for sale.

The County Sanitary Inspector and the Burgh Sanitary Inspectors acting under his supervision act as Detention Officers, and the County Veterinary Surgeon inspects all food stuffs detained by them. See the Sanitary Inspector's and Veterinary Surgeon's Reports.

A report on the work done by the authority under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts and the Public Health (Preservatives, &c., in Food) Regulations, with observations on any special questions which have received or require attention.

In the course of the year 147 samples of milk were taken for analysis in the Public Health Office. Of these samples 19 were found to be deficient in either fat or solids-not-fat, and were reported to the Police, who took formal samples for

analysis by the Public Analyst. In the following table is shewn the results of analysis in the Public Health Office, the results of analysis of formal samples by the Public Analyst, and, in certain cases, the results of analysis of samples taken at the byres under police supervision.

Informal Samples.		Formal Samples.		Byre Samples.	
Fat.	Solids-not-fat.	Fat.	Solids-not-fat.	Fat.	Solid-not-fat.
1. 2.90		3.6	8.78		
2. 2.95		3.80	8.79		
3. 2.90		3.50	8.58		
4. 2.95		3.55	8.22	2.70	8.25
5. 2.70	8.25	4.20	8.66		
6. 2.70	8.25	3.50	8.69		
7. 2.75		3.20	8.32	3.00	8.12 (6 cows)
				1.90	8.54 (1 cow)
8. 2.90	8.85	2.73	8.68	2.65	8.24 (6 cows)
				1.90	8.54 (1 cow)
9. 2.30	7.15	2.42	7.06	2.00	8.14
10. 2.90	8.77	2.50	8.50	2.70	8.42
11. 2.90	8.85	3.30	8.50		
12. 2.90	9.30	3.00	8.76		
13. 2.40	8.75	3.00	8.25	3.50	8.12
* 14. 2.80	8.80	2.50	8.57	3.55	8.54
15. 2.80	9.00	2.90	8.96	3.20	8.84
16. 2.50	9.00	3.45	8.88		
17. 2.70	7.38	3.45	8.23		
18. 2.80	8.75	3.60	9.84		
19. 3.60	7.46	3.75	8.28		

\* The seller of this milk was fined £5.

In addition to the above samples the Police took 21 other formal samples of milk, all of which were reported to be genuine.

It will be noted that in several cases the byre samples fall below the standard, and in a few cases the byre samples are of poorer quality than the formal samples.

The question of instituting a prosecution in deficient milk samples is always a difficult one if justice is to be done to both the producer and consumer.

Where a sample of milk contains less than 3 per cent. fat or less than 8.5 per cent. solids-not-fat, it is presumed, until the contrary is proved, that the sample is not genuine by reason of the abstraction of milk fat or solids-not-fat or the addition thereto of water. Accordingly a dairyman selling milk below the presumptive limits can be taken into a criminal court on the presumption he has been watering

the milk, or abstracting butter fat. He may have been watering the milk, in which case in the interest of the consumer, it is only right he should appear in court. Again, he may neither have watered the milk nor abstracted fat, but has sold the milk as produced by his cows, yet he appears in court on the presumption he has committed fraud. An analyst cannot always tell whether or not a sample of milk has been adulterated.

In 1921 an investigation was set on foot to obtain analytical results of the composition of milk from individual cows throughout Scotland. The result shewed that about 10 per cent. of all samples from individual cows contained less than 3 per cent. of fat and about 25 per cent. contained less than 8.5 per cent. of solids-not-fat. More recent investigations shew that samples of bulked milk may frequently fall below the presumptive limits of both fat and solids-not-fat.

One of the well-known causes of bulked milk falling below 3 per cent. fat is a long interval between the two milkings.

For these and other reasons the question of when to prosecute in milk cases has been a great difficulty, as the present arrangement of a presumptive standard is fair neither to the producer nor the consumer.

It is believed that this matter is having the attention of the central departments interested, and it is recommended that representation be made to these departments that legislation dealing with milk be introduced as early as possible.

Forty-seven samples of other foods and drugs were taken for analysis, viz., sausages, 12, jam 3, cheese 10, cream 2, mince 4, vinegar 4, honey 4, lard 4, butter 2, ice cream 1, and whisky 1. These were all reported genuine with the exception of a sample of mince which contained an excess of preservative.

Statement of Proceedings under the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

There are in the County 161 Factories and Workshops, of which 12 are retail bakehouses. The Sanitary Inspector made 112 inspections of these premises, and sent written notices in respect of five defects, all of which were remedied.

ALEX. LEDINGHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

Banff, April 1932.

## APPENDIX I.

*Causes of Death in the County of Banff during 1931.*

1. Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	3
2. Measles	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
3. Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	1
4. Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	9
5. Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	1
6. Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	31
7. Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
8. Other Epidemic Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	3
9. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	21
10. Other Tubercular Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	8
11. Other Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	1
12. Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	75
13. Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	1
14. Other General Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	18
15. Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	83
16. Other Diseases of Nervous System	...	...	...	...	...	23
17. Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	135
18. Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	25
19. Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	49
20. Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	55
21. Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	7
22. Gastric and Duodenal Ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	6
23. Diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	7
24. Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	5
25. Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	...	2
26. Other Diseases of Liver	...	...	...	...	...	5
27. Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	13
28. Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	23
29. Other Diseases of Genito-Urinary System	...	...	...	...	...	12
30. Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
31. Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	...	...	5
32. Diseases of Skin and Locomotor System	...	...	...	...	...	4
33. Congen. Debil., Prem. Birth, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	44
34. Old Age	...	...	...	...	...	30
35. Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	6
36. Other violence	...	...	...	...	...	22
37. Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	...	16
All causes	...	...	...	...	...	758

## APPENDIX II.

## HOSPITALS.

## Reports by Medical Officers.

## SEAFIELD COTTAGE HOSPITAL, BUCKIE.

**Accommodation.**—There is accommodation for 17 adults and for 5 small children. During the year the average number of beds occupied was 15. The highest number occupied was 22 on 1/10/31, and the lowest 13 on 15/6/31. There were 92 cases admitted during the year, and 82 discharged, the average stay being 52 days. This does not take into account cases coming in for operation, *e.g.* Removal of Tonsils, and staying less than one day.

**Classification of Cases.**—During the year 94 cases were dealt with. These may be classified roughly as follows :—

Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	7
Cardio-Vascular	...	...	...	6
Injuries (sprains, fractures and wounds)				3
Marasmus	...	...	...	2
Skin Affections	...	...	...	5
Rheumatism and Rheumatic Conditions				4
Nervous Diseases	...	...	...	8
Senility	...	...	...	8
Cancer	...	...	...	4
Abscess	...	...	...	6
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	3
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	2
Enlarged Tonsils	...	...	...	6
Burns	...	...	...	2
Pregnancy	...	...	...	5
Uterine Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	1
No Disease	...	...	...	22
				—
				94
				—

In addition there were treated by operation 81 cases which were less than one day in hospital.

**Visitation by Medical Officers.**—The Hospital was visited 565 times during the year, 288 of these visits being made by the Junior Medical Officers.

**Water Supply.**—The supply is ample, and appliances are provided to make it available in case of fire.

**Sanitary Arrangements.**—These are sufficient and in excellent order.

**Nursing Arrangements.**—The Nursing Staff consists of the Matron, one trained Nurse, and one Probationer. This is generally sufficient, but additional nurses are procurable when there is need.

**Dietary.**—The dietary is liberal and of a high standard.

**Bathing.**—If certified fit, patients are bathed on admission; once weekly as routine, and oftener if necessary.

**Medicine and Medical Appliances.**—These were supplied in quality and quantity as ordered.

**Equipment.**—The equipment has been sufficient and suitable for the work done at the Hospital.

**Heating and Ventilation.**—The new Central Heating System is giving great satisfaction. The wards have been kept comfortably warmed and well ventilated.

**Arrangements for Tuberculous, Verminous, and Infectious Cases :—**

1. A small ward is reserved for Tuberculosis, Verminous, and other cases requiring isolation.
2. **Infectious Cases.**—Any such cases suitable for admission to Campbell Hospital are sent there.

**Venereal Diseases.**—Arrangements as in former reports.

**Treatment of Cancer Cases.**—There are no special facilities for the treatment of these cases.

**Operations.**—There is an Operating Theatre equipped to deal with minor operations; cases requiring major operations are sent to Banff or Aberdeen.

During the year the following operations were performed under a general anæsthetic :—

For Hypertrophied Tonsils and Adenoids	63
Carious Teeth .....	13
Circumcision .....	6
T.B. Glands .....	4
Uterine Curettage .....	2
Removal of Cyst .....	1
Mastoid Abscess .....	3
Ischio-Rectal Fistula .....	1
Manipulation of Ankle .....	1



**Obstetric Cases.**—There were 4 births at the Hospital during the year.

**Deaths.**—During the year 10 deaths occurred at the Hospital. The causes of death may be classified as follows :

Senility	...	...	...	...	2
Senile Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	3
Senile Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	2
Cancer	...	...	...	...	2
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	1

Of the persons who died 8 were over 70 years of age—2 being over 80 and 1 over 90.

GEORGE HENDRY, *Medical Officer.*

Buckie, 6th April 1932.

### CAMPBELL HOSPITAL, PORTSOY.

The number of patients treated in the Hospital during the year 1931 was as follows :—

	1st Jan. In Hosp.	Admitted.	Discharged.	Deaths.	In Hosp. 31st Dec.
Scarlet Fever	10	53	46	—	17
Diphtheria ..	4	16	20	—	1
Typhoid .....	—	33	30	2	—
Erysipelas ...	1	3	3	1	—
	15	105	99	3	18

The outstanding occurrence of the year was the epidemic of Typhoid Fever. Every ward in the Hospital was required for these cases, so that all other infectious diseases in the area had to be sent to other hospitals. Additional staff had to be engaged and the accommodation for those extra nurses was a matter of difficulty. The observation and discharge wards had to be used as nurses' quarters, which was not a very satisfactory arrangement.

The nursing staff performed their duties very satisfactorily.

J. W. MACRAE, *Medical officer.*



## UPPER DISTRICT ISOLATION HOSPITAL, DUFFTOWN.

During the year 1931 there was treated in the above Hospital—

- 9 cases of Scarlet Fever.
- 2 cases of Diphtheria.
- 2 cases of Dysentery.
- 1 case of Paratyphoid.
- 1 case of Whooping Cough.
- 1 case of Pneumonia.

One Typhoid carrier was admitted and remains in hospital.

C. M. STEPHEN, *Medical Officer.*

### APPENDIX III.

#### LABORATORY EXAMINATIONS FOR BANFFSHIRE.

JANUARY—DECEMBER, 1931.

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.	Grand Total.
DIPHTHERIA—				
Throat swabs .....	30	464	494	494
TUBERCULOSIS—				
Sputum for tubercle bacilli ...	63	189	252	
Pus for tubercle bacilli .....	—	16	16	
Urines for tubercle bacilli ...	2	20	22	
Faeces for tubercle bacilli ...	—	2	2	
Pleural fluids for tubercle bacilli —		5	5	
			—	297

TYPHOID—	Positive.	Negative.	Total.	Grand Total.
Blood cultures .....	21	41	62	
Widals .....	33	40	73	
Faeces .....	21	114	135	
Urines .....	0	3	3	
			<hr/>	273

## PARATYPHOID A, B and C—

Blood cultures .....	0	1	1	
Widals .....	6	203	209	
Faeces .....	1	1	2	
			<hr/>	212

## BACILLARY DYSENTERY—

Faeces .....	76	139	215	
			<hr/>	215

## UNDULANT FEVER—

Agglutinations .....	2	27	29	
Faeces .....	0	1	1	
Urines .....	0	2	2	
			<hr/>	32

## GENERAL—

	Total.	Grand Total.
Faeces for organisms .....	8	
Faeces for protozoal examination .....	3	
Urines :—		
General pathological examination ...	97	
Bacteriological examination .....	87	
Cerebro-spinal fluids .....	1	
Pleural fluids .....	5	
Blood cultures .....	3	
Blood counts .....	23	
Differential cell counts .....	33	
Pus for organisms .....	48	
Sputum for organisms .....	59	
Throat and nose swabs for organisms ...	99	
Vaccines .....	70	

Waters :—	Total.	Grand Total.
Bacteriological examination .....	15	
Chemical examination .....	17	
Histological specimens .....	10	
Animal specimens .....	2	
Malaria .....	1	
Milks for bacterial count .....	69	
Hair for microsporum audii .....	2	
Miscellaneous .....	1	
	—	653
Venereal Diseases—		
Wassermann Reactions .....	36	
Kahn Tests .....	36	
Gonococcal smears .....	50	
	—	122
Biochemical Examinations—		
Blood sugar .....	1	
Blood urea .....	1	
Faeces for blood .....	5	
Stomach contents .....	1	
Faeces for fat .....	1	
	—	9
Animal Inoculation—		
Guinea pigs inoculated with milk deposit for tubercle bacilli .....	124	
Guinea pig inoculated with pleural fluid for tubercle bacilli .....	1	
Guinea pig inoculated with pus for tubercle bacilli .....	1	
Guinea pigs inoculated with blood for Br. abortus .....	5	
Guinea pigs inoculated with urine for Br. abortus .....	5	136
		<hr/>
		2443

# COUNTY OF BANFF.

## REPORT BY THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Year 1931.

During the year the Sanitary condition of the County has been good, and systematic inspections were made by the Sanitary Inspector in all villages and hamlets in order to ascertain the existence of nuisances requiring to be dealt with.

The following summaries indicate sanitary work overtaken in the County during the year :—

1. Insanitary houses and bothies dealt with.	-	38	...
Remedied more or less,	- - - -	...	10
2. Unsatisfactory water supplies dealt with,	-	5	...
Remedied,	- - - - -	...	
3. Defective drains, traps, W.Cs., &c., dealt with,	-	9	...
Remedied,	- - - - -	...	9
4. Dirty houses, premises, including ashpit privies, &c., dealt with,	- - - - -	27	...
Remedied,	- - - - -	...	25
5. Dirty cowsheds, milk stores and cows, etc., (milk premises), dealt with,	- - - - -	28	...
Remedied,	- - - - -	...	26
6. Dirty cowsheds, milk stores and cows (butter and cheese premises), dealt with,	- - - - -	374	...
Remedied,	- - - - -	...	140
7. Defective, or want of, ashpits and privies dealt with,	-	6	...
Remedied,	- - - - -	...	4
8. Middens and foul accumulations dealt with	-	12	...
Remedied,	- - - - -	...	11
9. Sundries—Choked drains, overcrowding, means of ventilation, &c., dealt with,	- - - - -	6	...
Remedied,	- - - - -	...	6
10. Workshops and workplaces dealt with,	- -	5	..
Remedied,	- - - - -	...	5
Totals,	- -	510	240

**Housing.**—During the year the Sanitary Inspector inspected 74 dwelling-houses under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations (Scotland) 1928. 38 houses were found in a more or less defective condition, 31 being in a

condition that at reasonable expense could be made in all respects fit for habitation, 5 were in a condition approaching unfitness for habitation, and 2 were unfit for habitation. Closing orders were made in respect of the last mentioned dwelling-houses. During the year 5 defective dwelling-houses mentioned in 1930 report were reconditioned by the aid of a grant under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act 1926. The really defective houses in the county are situated in the rural area of the county and are occupied by persons in poor circumstances and consequently are only able to pay a very small rent, in some instances £1 per annum being the rent charged. The owners of these houses state that the small rent received does not warrant them expending money to recondition them even with the aid of a grant under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act. The solution to this problem is difficult to find unless new houses are built and let at a nominal rent of about £5 per annum. The Landward members of the County Council are meantime considering what should best be done to improve the housing conditions in the rural areas, particularly in view of the additional grant under the Housing (Rural Authorities) Act 1931. In the 1930 report mention was made of the serious sub-letting in the special districts of Gardenstown, Whitehills and Portgordon. The conditions in 1931 were similar. No new dwelling-houses were erected in any of these districts which would help to relieve the overcrowded condition of these villages. As far as is known only 3 dwelling-houses were erected in the rural area of the county without the aid of a subsidy during 1931. 18 men's sleeping apartments were inspected during the year. 6 intimations were served, particularly in regard to defective heating arrangements and cleansing.

**Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926.**—During the year considerable progress has been made in the reconditioning of dwelling-houses under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926, and 29 applications were approved by the County Council and Certificate A granted for the following :—

The conversion of a mill into two cottar houses at Old Crombie, Marnoch. The conversion of a shop into a dwelling-house at Tollhouse, Blacklaw. The provision of a water supply and reconditioning of dwelling-house at Westside, Carnousie, Forglenn. The reconditioning of dwelling-house, provision of water supply, W.C., &c., at Stripeside, Glen of Newmill. The reconditioning of cottar house at Westerton, Drummuir. The reconditioning of dwelling-house at 12 Knock Street, Whitehills. The provision of a water W.C., drainage, &c., for two cottar houses at Tullochallum, Mortlach. The reconditioning of dwelling-house at Craig Cot-

tage, Ternemny, Rothiemay. The provision of a gravitation water supply to 15 rural workers' cottages at Edinville, Aberlour. The reconditioning of cottar house at Glenfarclas, Inveravon. The reconditioning of dwelling-house at 2 Garden Lane, Portgordon. The reconditioning of dwelling-house at 25 West End, Whitehills. The rebuilding of defective gable and the provision of W.C., bath, &c., at 152 Chapel Green, Gardenstown. The reconditioning of dwelling-house and the provision of a gravitation water supply at Mossbank, Marnoch. The reconditioning of dwelling-house at 38 West End, Whitehills. The reconditioning of dwelling-house and provision of a gravitation water supply at Montbletton Croft, Gamrie. Reconditioning of dwelling-house at 1 Seafeld Street, Whitehills. Re-roofing of dwelling-house and provision of a water supply, W.C., &c., at 6 East High Street, Portgordon. The reconditioning of dwelling-house at Smerick Cottage, Enzie. The reconditioning of dwelling-house at South Feithhill, Inverkeithny. The reconditioning of 2 cottar houses at Loanhead, Boyndie. The reconditioning of dwelling-house at Gordonstown Croft, Ordiquhill. The reconditioning of dwelling-house at Milltown, Rothiemay. The reconditioning of dwelling-house at 13A East High Street, Portgordon. The conversion of a barn into a dwelling-house at Brodiefield, Marnoch. The provision of a water supply and drainage for two cottages at Longmanhill, Gamrie. The provision of a gravitation water supply, W.C., &c., at Bracobrae, Grange. The conversion of a store into a dwelling-house and the reconditioning of a dwelling-house at Tynet Mill, Rathven. The reconditioning of a dwelling-house at 49 Low Shore, Whitehills. Certificate B was granted after the completion of the work in 32 cases.

**Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1924.**—Three applications for grants under the above Act were received. Two were subsequently withdrawn and one was deferred until the County Council's scheme was approved by the Department of Health. Certificate A was granted for the last mentioned application early in 1932.

A statement of proceedings by the Sanitary as designated officer under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1928, and the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1930. See Appendix I.

**Water Supplies.**—There are eight special water supply districts in the County, viz. : Crovie and Gardenstown, in the parish of Gamrie; Whitehills, in the parish of Boyndie; Fordyce, in the parish of Fordyce; Portgordon, in the parish of Rathven; Tomintoul, in the parish of Kirkmichael; Newmill, in the parish of Keith, and Crannoch, in the parish of



Grange. There was a plentiful supply of water in each of the special districts during the year. At Whitehills during the summer a shortage was experienced on two or three occasions, and on investigations being made it was found that the contractor for the harbour improvements had been using a considerable quantity of the village water for his cement batches without permission. This was eventually stopped. In the 1930 report mention was made as to the necessity of increasing the water supply to Whitehills by at least 10,000 gallons per 24 hours. The Sanitary Inspector was instructed to prospect for water at the Blairmaud system and after extensive digging approximately 10,000 gallons per day was found on the farm of Blairmaud. Meantime the County Architect is preparing plans and specifications, &c., which will be submitted to the Banff District Council for their approval. In regard to the Newmill supply the Keith District Council has decided to put the gathering area out of rotation and are at present negotiating with the owners. With the exception of a small extension of a water main at Whitehills, there was no work of any note carried out in any of the special districts. In the rural areas only 5 complaints were received regarding defective water supplies. These were investigated and dealt with.

**Drainage.**—There are five special drainage districts in the County, viz. : Fordyce, Gardenstown, Portgordon, Tomintoul, and Whitehills. Fordyce, although formed into a special drainage district about 30 years ago, still depends on an obsolete system of drains, and as year by year proprietors are erecting modern sanitary conveniences in the village, the time has arrived when the village should have a modern sewerage system. In Whitehills a new sewerage system was laid down in 1929, and at the end of 1931, 137 private drains have been connected to the public sewers, which still leaves 94 properties the drainage of which is not connected to the new sewers. Each owner has already been notified by the Sanitary Inspector to disconnect from the old system and connect to the new. The defaulting owners should now be compelled to connect to the new sewers. Gardenstown, Tomintoul and Portgordon have each a modern sewerage system, and each have been maintained in good order during the year. Mention was made in the 1930 report regarding the unsatisfactory drainage arrangements in the villages of Cornhill and Newmill. During 1931 the conditions were similar. In Newmill upwards of 20 persons keep cows and the drainage from the byres and dungsteads are connected to the obsolete drainage in the village, consequently offensive odours are felt, particularly at street openings which are untrapped. These drains discharge into small burns at each



end of the village, which are considerably fouled. At Cornhill there is no proper outlet for the drainage, and consequently the area at the north side of the village is considerably fouled and in warm weather the odour is very objectionable. These two villages should be formed into Special Drainage Districts and modern systems of sewers laid down. 9 defective private drains were dealt with during the year. The Department of Health request the Sanitary Inspector to incorporate in his report the following :

District.	W.Cs. erected in 1931.	Common W.Cs. in use for two or more tenants.	Number of houses without a water supply and sink inside the house.	Privies.	Ashpits.
Crovie	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>	67	28 for 1 tenant 3 for 2 tenants	<i>Nil</i>
Gardenstown	2	6 for 2 tenants	85	51 for 1 tenant	6 Public receptacles
Fordyce	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>	47	32 for 1 tenant 8 for 2 tenants	42 for 1 tenant 8 for 2 tenants
Newmill	1	<i>Nil</i>	102	86 for 1 tenant 20 for 2 tenants 2 for 3 tenants	38 for 1 tenant 11 for 2 tenants 10 for 3 tenants 3 for 4 tenants
Portgordon	2	14 for 2 do. 1 for 3 do. 1 for 4 do.	110	88 for 1 tenant 11 for 2 tenants	2 Public receptacles
Sandend	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>	70	38 for 1 tenant	3 Public receptacles
Tomintoul	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>	59	56 for 1 tenant 5 for 2 tenants	40 for 1 tenant 7 for 2 tenants
Whitehills	16	1 for 2 do.	126	36 for 1 tenant 2 for 2 tenants	<i>Nil</i>

**Scavenging.**—The special scavenging districts are Gardenstown, Fordyce, Whitehills, Sandend, and Portgordon. With the exception of Fordyce the scavenging is carried out by contractors who have each carried out their duties in a

satisfactory manner. At Gardenstown six concrete receptacles are placed at convenient centres in which the householders deposit their refuse. These receptacles are emptied by a contractor bi-weekly, or at more frequent periods as required. At Fordyce private ashpits are in use, the householders being responsible for the emptying of the same. A local scavenger is employed to keep the streets clean. Inspections were made by the Sanitary Inspector of all the ashpits in the village, and where necessary instructions were given to have the ashpits emptied. At Sandend three public receptacles are provided at convenient centres and are emptied by a contractor at regular intervals. These receptacles are situated in close proximity to dwelling-houses, and complaints have been made regarding offensive odours from same. It is the desire of the inhabitants of this village to have these receptacles abolished and to institute an ashbin removal system, which could be carried out at little additional cost. At Whitehills the refuse is removed every alternate day by a contractor who is also responsible for the cleaning of the streets and the emptying of street gully traps. At Portgordon two dépôts are provided for the disposal of refuse. These were regularly emptied by the contractor. In regard to the village of Tomintoul the Dufftown District Council continued the grant of £12 10s which in former years was given by the late Keith District Committee in order to maintain a certain measure of cleansing in this village. The cleansing in the village of Newmill is far from satisfactory, and at a meeting of the ratepayers it was agreed to send a requisition to the County Council to form the village into a special scavenging district. Inspections were made of the ashpits, privies, &c., in all the populous areas within the county and 14 intimations were served on tenants regarding foul accumulations and dirty privies.

**Nuisances.**—10 complaints were received from the various parts of the County during the year. The nature of the complaints were defective drainage, accumulations of refuse, defective water supplies, dirty houses, and defective housing conditions. Each complaint was duly investigated and where necessary steps were taken to remove the cause of complaint.

**Factories and Workshops.**—There are 161 factories and workshops within the County, comprising—Bakers, 12; Net Baking, 2; Blacksmiths, 38; Boatbuilder, 1; Carpenters, 29; Coopers, 5; Cycle Repairers, 4; Dressmaker, 1; Fishcurers, 12; Millwrights, 2; Ropemaker, 1; Sailmakers, 2; Shoemakers, 30; Saddler, 1; Tailors, 21; Watchmaker, 1. 112 inspections were made during the year and 5 notices served regarding dirty premises, each of which was remedied.

**Slaughter-Houses.**—There are 4 private Slaughter-Houses in the landward district of the County. Renewal of licences were granted to Mr Wm. Robertson, March Street, Portgordon; Mr Wm. Roger, Marypark, Invercraon; Mrs E. Mathison, Tomintoul, and Mr Wm. Stephen, Croftbain, Glenlivet. These premises were regularly inspected and found to be kept in good order. The Sanitary Inspector, as Detention Officer, made 67 inspections during the year, and three carcasses were detained for inspection by the Meat Inspector. There are also 10 fleshers' shops in the landward district of the County. These premises were also inspected and found satisfactory.

The Burgh Sanitary Inspectors act as Detention Officers in the various Burghs, and the number of visits of inspection, detentions and seizures are shown in the following table :—

Burgh.	Number of visits of inspection	Carcasses or portion of carcasses detained for inspection by Meat Inspector.	Carcasses or portion of carcasses found diseased and surrendered to the Detention officer by the owner.
Aberchirder .....	348	3	—
Aberlour .....	36	2	—
Banff .....	311	21	5
Buckie .....	310	19	217
Cullen .....	238	44	—
Dufftown .....	56	1	—
Keith .....	595	7	163
Macduff .....	158	4	5
Portsoy .....	104	3	2

There are no Slaughter-Houses in the Burghs of Findochty, and Portknockie. A tabular statement of the number of animals slaughtered and carcasses condemned, see Report by Veterinary Inspector.

**Offensive Trades.**—Renewal of licences were granted to Mr Jas. Christie, Muirfield, Fordyce, for a knackery at Muirfield, Fordyce, and Mr Isaac Sharpe, Inglewood, Keith, for a knackery at Douglasbrae, Keith. These premises were regularly inspected by the Sanitary Inspector, and found to be conducted in a satisfactory manner.

**Schools.**—The majority of the sanitary conveniences at the various schools within the County were inspected during the year and found to be kept in a cleanly condition. During

the year the following improvements were carried out:—Marnoch P. School, new water supply; Blacklaw P. School, new drains around back of school and house building; Hilton P. School, new latrines and drainage; Ordiquhill P. School, new water supply and latrines complete; Blairmaud P. School, new Elsan closets fitted up; Brodiesord P. School, new Elsan closets fitted up; Deskford P. School, new water main fitted; Morinish P. School, new drainage.

**Common Lodging-Houses.**—There are no common lodging-houses in the county.

**Burial Grounds.**—The majority of the burial grounds within the county were inspected during the year and found to be kept in good order. Special observations were made during the latter part of the year at Boyndie Churchyard, a report on which will be submitted to the County Council. Two interments were carried out in terms of Section 69 of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897.

**Dairies.**—On 1st January 1931 there were 104 persons on the register for the sale of milk in the landward district of the County. During the year 6 persons were added to the register and 3 persons were voluntarily removed from the register. The total number of registered dairymen in the landward district at 31st December is 107. Of these 93 are retail dairymen, 12 wholesale dairymen, and 2 persons resident outwith the County are registered as purveyors of milk within the County. 179 inspections were made by the Sanitary Inspector at the premises of these registered dairymen during the year, and as the result of these inspections 28 notices were served, viz.: Dirty cows, 9; dirty walls and ceilings of cowsheds and milk stores, 14; dirty areas and passages, 3; dirty floors of cowsheds, 2. By arrangement between the County Council and the Town Councils of the Burghs of Buckie and Keith, the Sanitary Inspectors of these burghs carry out the duties under the Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Act, 1914, in the landward district of the parishes of Rathven, Grange, Keith, Boharm and Botriphnie, and during the year the registered dairy premises were inspected by them and 16 notices were served regarding the dirty condition of the premises and cows.

The average number of cows in registered premises is 1240. A steady improvement was seen regarding the cleanliness of the cows and premises generally, also it was found that greater care is being taken by the dairymen in the milking and handling of milk.

There are 1211 persons on the register for the sale of

butter and cheese. During the year 22 persons were added to the register and 22 persons were voluntarily removed from the register. 659 inspections were made by the Sanitary Inspector at the premises of these registered persons during the year. An improvement was seen in the cleanliness of the premises generally, but again the cleanliness of the cows was far from being satisfactory. Previous to the passing of the Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Act, these premises were not under the supervision of an official and it is difficult to get the butter sellers to recognise that before good butter can be produced scrupulous cleanliness must be observed in regard to their animals, premises, and utensils. The dairy bye-laws have been revised by the County Council but to date these have not yet been confirmed by the Department of Health. Until this is done proceedings cannot be taken against these defaulters, but instructions have been given to the Sanitary Inspector to take proceedings so soon as the bye-laws are confirmed. No notices were served regarding the unsatisfactory conditions found, but the Sanitary Inspector gave verbal warning in each case where conditions were found unsatisfactory.

**Dairy Premises in Burghs.**—The following table shows inspections, etc., carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors in their respective Burghs—

Burgh.	Number of Persons on Register.	Inspections.	Defects found.	Defects remedied.	Approximate Number of Cows.
Aberchirder ...	7	24	—	—	22
Aberlour .....	2	10	2	2	4
Banff .....	5	34	3	2	43
Buckie .....	—	—	—	—	—
Cullen .....	3	13	3	3	73
Dufftown .....	12	8	1	1	59
Findochty .....	2	10	—	—	16
Keith .....	13	38	15	15	70
Macduff .....	15	18	—	—	110
Portknockie ...	1	3	—	—	4
Portsoy .....	7	39	8	7	47

ALEX. G. G. JOHNSTON, *Sanitary Inspector.*

Banff, April 1932.

## APPENDIX I.

HOUSING (INSPECTION OF DISTRICT)  
REGULATIONS (SCOTLAND), 1928.

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1. Number of dwelling-houses inspected,	-	-	74
2. Number of dwelling-houses which on inspection were considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation,			6

## HOUSING (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1925.

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3. Number of cases where intimations were given under Section 20 (1) as to insufficient water-closet accommodation,	-	-	-	-	16
(a) Cases where requirements complied with by owners,	-	-	-	(a)	16
(b) Cases where works carried out by Local Authority after failure of owners to do so,	-	-	-	(b)	...
(c) Cases still pending,	-	-	-	(c)	...
4. Number of houses of (a) one apartment,	-	-	-	(a)	...
and (b) two apartments for the erection of which the consent of the Local Authority has been given in terms of Section 111,	-	-	-	(b)	...



## HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING, &c., (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1919.

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5. Number of cases where notices were served under Section 40 (1) to provide dwelling-houses with water supply, - - - - -	4
(a) Cases where requirements complied with by owners, - - - - - (a)	3
(b) Cases where works carried out by Local Authority after failure of owners to do so. (b)	...
(c) Cases still pending, - - - - - (c)	1

## HOUSING (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1930.

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6. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served under Section 14 (1), -	...
7. Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit for human habitation following on notices under Section 14 (1),	...
8. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which work has been done by the Local Authority under Section 15 (1), - - - - -	...
9. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which in terms of Section 17 a demolition order or closing order under Section 16 (3) has been substituted for a notice under Section 14 (1), - - -	...
10. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served in terms of Section 16 (1), -	...
11. Number of dwelling-houses referred to in 18:—	
(a) Which have been rendered fit for human habitation, - - - - - (a)	...
(b) In respect of which undertaking has been given that the house will not be used for human habitation until it has been rendered so fit, - - - - - (b)	...
(c) In respect of which demolition orders have been made under Section 16 (3), - - - (c)	...
(d) In respect of which closing orders have been made under Section 16 (3) and (4). (d)	...
12. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which closing orders have, in terms of Section 16 (3), been determined by the Local Authority, following up on the houses having been rendered fit for human habitation, - - - - -	...
13. Number of houses in respect of which advances have been made in terms of Section 34 towards cost of repairs and amount so advanced, - - -	...



# COUNTY OF BANFF.

## ANNUAL REPORT BY THE VETERINARY OFFICER For the Year 1931.

The headings of the various sections of this Report as far as Section g are in accordance with the instructions of the Department of Health for Scotland to Veterinary Officers in the preparation of their Reports.

### (a) Review of the Year's work, noting specially

#### (1) Any matters of outstanding general interest.

It is proper to explain that although this is the second Annual Report by the whole-time Veterinary Officer, it is really the first Report in which one whole year's work which has been done by the Veterinary Officer has been reported on.

#### (2) Any particular questions of interest and importance.

A question of great importance to everyone during the year was the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in Scotland in June. This resulted in a general "stand still" order over Britain from the evening of June 18th till noon on July 4th. Animals were only moved of necessity and by licence. Auction markets were held under licence from the Local Authority for animals for immediate slaughter and subject to veterinary inspection.

Also see appropriate section.

(3) Any administrative difficulties which the Inspector has encountered.—None.

### (b) A statement of the extent to which the Veterinary Inspector has been able to overtake :—

(1) The statutory inspections of cattle in registered dairies at the intervals prescribed in the regulations governing these duties.

On the 31st December, 1931, there were 173 persons registered for the sale of milk in the County (both landward and burghal). The number of cows in these premises is approximately 1688.

347 farms were inspected and 3408 cows examined. In most cases every dairy was inspected twice during the year. It should be explained that few inspections can be carried out during the summer when the cows are at grass.

During the summer a system of intimating to the farmers that the Veterinary Inspector would visit on a certain date and hour was tried. This proved to be absolutely unsatisfactory, for several reasons:—

- (1) extra work to the dairyman, who possibly had to drive his cows a distance.
- (2) disturbing the cows' usual routine to disadvantage.
- (3) the inspector could not always be depended on to keep his appointment.
- (4) the cows usually got an extra special grooming.

Four routine annual inspections would be nearer the ideal, but when only one inspector has all the work to do in the County, including suspected anthrax, and meat inspection at 14 slaughter-houses, one can see that more inspections are impracticable. At this time it might be worthy of note that the veterinary officer travelled over 24,000 miles in the service of the County during 1931.

There were 1211 persons registered for the sale of butter and/or cheese on 31st December, 1931. The approximate number of cows is 3000.

192 premises were visited, and 529 cows examined. It is impossible in this group to carry out the annual inspection, owing to the reasons mentioned in the remarks on dairies.

## **(b) 2 The inspection of cattle in exempted premises.**

There are only two exempted premises in the County. These were not examined.

### **(c) 1. A statement showing**

#### **(1) The general conditions and cleanliness of the cattle in the district.**

(1) The conditions and cleanliness of dairy cattle in the District is satisfactory, and has shown a decided improvement during the year. More dairymen are making a habit of clipping the udders and quarters of their cows, and are deriving the benefits of less work. The old deep-rooted prejudice of not doing this because of causing chills and mastitis has been proved incorrect.

With regard to the cleanliness of cows on premises registered for the sale of butter and/or cheese, this leaves much to be desired. On account of the fact that the new Dairy Bye-laws have not been confirmed by the Department of Health for Scotland, no action could be taken. Oral admonitions were given in necessitous cases. The defaulters

were also reported to the County Sanitary Inspector. No warning letters were sent. A few prosecutions of the worst offenders, well published in the local press, would have a very beneficial effect on the cleanliness of the cows in this class of registered owner.

**(c) 2 The nature of the fodder and diet as affecting the quality of the milk.**

No noteworthy charge has been made in the feeding of dairy cattle. Less draff was fed owing to the number of distilleries being closed; beet pulp in a number of cases is being used instead with good results. On several farms, individual water bowls have been installed, the farmers stating that this has a remarkable effect in lessening the number of cases of "stomach trouble."

In no instance, as far as is known, has the quality of the milk been adversely influenced by the diet.

**(c) 3 The number of diseased cows (specifying the diseases—excluding tuberculosis).**

No attempt has been made to tabulate the number of diseased animals (excluding tuberculosis) found on routine examination. The additional time and work would make it impossible. Such diseases as contagious bovine abortion, mastitis, retention of the foetal membranes and septic conditions, etc., have all been dealt with on their merits. Isolation where possible, has been practised. (This is not always possible owing to the absence of proper isolation quarters).

**(c) 4 The manner in which milk from diseased cows has been disposed of.**

The usual way is to feed it to the live stock of the farm, especially pigs, although calves and poultry also are fed. In every case, however, the owner is told the inadvisability of feeding such milk in its raw state to live stock. In many cases the farmer has boiled the milk before using it for animals, and this is the safer system. No difficulty has been experienced in getting owners of cows supplying abnormal milk to discontinue selling the milk for human consumption.

**(d) A statement in regard to**

**(1) Tuberculosis among dairy cows in the district.**

The percentage of cows showing evidence of tuberculosis as defined under the Order is comparatively small. .44 per cent. of cows examined were found to be amenable

to the Tuberculosis Order. .21 per cent. of cows examined were found to be suffering from tuberculosis of the udder. The dairymen seems to be keen in getting rid of any suspicious animal in his herd, and reports such cases immediately.

**(d) 2 The number of cows found tuberculous on clinical examination of herds.**

During the year 15 cows in dairies were found to be tuberculous and were slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order. Seven of these were suffering from tuberculosis of the udder.

29 cows were removed from registered butter premises as being tuberculous.

**(d) 3 The number of cows found tuberculous after tuberculin test.**

Seven of the cows under (d) 2 were subjected to the tuberculin test.

**(d) 4 Total number of cows to which the tuberculin test was applied under section 22.**

The tuberculin test was applied to 40 cows. As a result 7 cows were slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order. Of the forty, 35 were tested at one farm. For further information, see Section (f).

**(d) 5 An account of the steps taken to secure a tubercle free milk supply.**

Apart from the routine inspections under the Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Act, 1914, and the Tuberculosis Order, 1925, owners are continually being told the benefits both to the public and themselves of producing a graded milk. The usual answer has been that they would like to do so but the capital expenditure prohibits it (if they own the farm), or else that the landlords will not assist them (if they are on lease). This argument is put forward very strongly this year.

For account of the samples taken for examination for tubercle bacilli, see appropriate section.

**(d) 6 A list of the dairies holding grade milk licences in respect of tubercle free herds.**

None.



- (d) 7 A note of the number of other dairies known to have tubercle free herds.

None.

- (d) 8 A note of any general difficulties which are found by producers to militate against the successful marketing of Certified and Grade A. (Tuberculin Tested) milk.

One can here restate the three reasons given in last year's report, viz. :—

- the capital outlay,
- keen competition in the trade,
- public lethargy.

- (e) A list of dairies holding licences for the production of Grade A. milk—None.

- (f) Notes on any samples taken for examination in terms of Section 21 of the Act of 1914.

Samples of milk are taken from throughout the County, and sent to the City Hospital, Aberdeen, for bacterial count, B. coli content, and tubercle bacilli examination.

The following is a summary of the results of the bacterial counts :

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Under													
30,000 ...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
200,000 ...	—	3	4	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	11
500,000 ...	5	—	1	3	3	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	15
1,000,000 ...	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	5
Over													
1,000,000 ...	—	—	—	1	7	5	—	5	6	—	5	—	29
Total .....	5	5	5	6	11	6	—	6	6	6	6	—	62

The following is a table of the results of the B. coli content examination :

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Absent in 1 c.c.	—	1	2	2	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	9
Absent in .1 c.c.	3	3	1	2	—	2	—	2	3	5	—	—	21
Absent in .01 c.c.	—	1	2	2	9	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	15
Present in .01 c.c.	2	—	—	—	—	3	—	3	3	1	5	—	17
Total .....	5	5	5	6	11	6	—	6	6	6	6	—	62

No samples were taken in July, and the December samples were only examined for tubercle bacilli.

The above two tables will probably be more readily

understood when it is stated that the Standard of cleanliness for Grade "A" (Tuberculin Tested) milk is—not more than 200,000 bacteria per cubic centimetre, and no coliform bacillus in .01 c.c.

Seventy-seven samples of bulk milk were taken for examination for tubercle bacilli. One of these samples was positive to guinea pig inoculation. As a result of this report one cow was slaughtered on clinical evidence. The herd was then divided into three groups, and bulk samples taken from each group. The bacteriologist reported that two of the grouped samples were positive, and as no clinical evidence could be got the cows in the two positive groups were tuberculin tested, when 35 reacted. Individual samples of milk were taken from the reactors. Two out of the 35 samples were found positive. The cows giving the positive samples were slaughtered, and on post mortem examination, deep-seated tubercular lesions were found in the udder.

Bulk samples have been taken at intervals from this herd, and all have been negative to guinea pig inoculation test for tubercle bacilli.

**(g) A statement of the extent to which Sections 13 and 14 of the Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Act, 1914, are being complied with.**

Under Section 14 three dairymen reported that one of their cows had mastitis. Although every dairyman received a copy of the Dairy Bye-laws in 1927, in which are published in full Sections 13 and 14, it seems he has not properly grasped the fact that any disease liable to contaminate the milk must be reported to the Local Authority. He simply throws the milk down a drain or feeds it to stock and thinks he has done sufficiently.

The new Dairy Bye-laws have not yet been approved by the Department of Health for Scotland, so that no enforcement of these Sections could take place.

28 cases of mastitis were found on routine inspection, isolated, and the milk withheld from human consumption.

**Tuberculosis Order, 1925.**

Eighty-nine animals were put under the Order. The tuberculin test was applied in 7 instances. Seven animals died before the preliminary examination could take place.

In 2 cases no evidence of tuberculosis was present on post mortem examination. Twelve cases of tuberculosis of the udder were eliminated by slaughter. The following three tables show the incidence of the three groups of tuberculosis as defined under the Order, and associated result of the post mortem examination :

	Tuberculosis of Udder.	Tuberculosis Emaciation.	Clinical Symptoms.	Total.
Cows in milk .....	11	6	19	36
Other cow or heifer ...	1	5	13	19
Other bovine animal .	—	15	10	25
TOTAL .....	12	26	42	80

	Cows in Milk.	Other Cow or Heifer.	Other Bovine Animal.	Total.
Advanced ...	29	12	7	48
Not Advanced	7	7	18	32
TOTAL .....	36	19	25	80

	Tuberculosis of Udder.	Tuberculosis Emaciation.	Clinical Symptoms.	Total.
Advanced ...	11	12	25	48
Not Advanced	1	14	17	32
TOTAL .....	12	26	42	80

### Animals reported under Tuberculosis Order from 1925-1931.

1931.	1930.	1929.	1928.	1927.	1926.	1925.
89 (12)	86 (2)	102 (4)	89 (4)	76 (1)	57 (11)	17 (2)

The figures in brackets indicate the number of cases of tuberculosis of the udder.

### Anthrax.

Ninety-three cases of suspected anthrax were reported during the year. All these cases were investigated, and in no instance could the cause of death be shown to be Anthrax. Two cases were diagnosed by Local Practitioners as being anthrax. These carcasses were cremated successfully in both cases. Neither was confirmed by the Ministry of Agriculture.

### Swine Fever.

252 visits were made to examine 3982 in-contact pigs. In only 1 case was swine fever diagnosed. This was reported to the Police, who put the outbreak in the hands of the Ministry of Agriculture. The Ministry confirmed the outbreak as swine fever. It is gratifying to observe that the disease was limited to the one outbreak last February.

### Sheep Scab.

Four cases of reported suspected sheep scab were investigated. 169 sheep were examined, and scrapings from the lesions taken. Neither from the clinical manifestation, nor from the microscopical examination could any evidence of sheep scab be seen. The symptoms evinced and lesions shown were in most cases due to external parasites.

### Foot-and-Mouth Disease.

As previously stated in this Report, a "stand still" order for Britain went into operation on the evening of 19th June, and came off at noon on 4th July. Auction markets were held for fat stock for immediate slaughter, subject to a licence from the County Council and veterinary inspection.

During this time 7 markets were inspected, and 742 animals examined. No trace of the disease was found.

### Parasitic Mange.

No outbreak.

Table showing the incidence of notifiable diseases, excluding tuberculosis, from 1924-1931 :

Disease.	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924
Anthrax .....	—	3	7	3	5	6	10	7
Swine Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sheep Scab	—	—	3	8	3	4	4	4
Foot-and-Mouth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Parasitic Mange	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—

### Markets.

The various markets were visited throughout the County. No evidence of any of the scheduled diseases was found.

### Public Health (Meat) Regulations (Scotland), 1930.

1001 visits of inspection were made to the 14 slaughter-houses, both public and private, throughout the County. An excellent class of animal is killed. The killing booths and precincts of the slaughter-houses are kept in a satisfactory condition, with the exception of Keith, which again must be mentioned as being in such a condition structurally, that it is impossible to keep it in a hygienic, sanitary state. Useful improvements have been carried out at the Burgh Slaughter-houses of Buckie and Cullen. In some cases minor things, such as dirty killing crutches and knives, were brought to the notice of the Slaughterman or local Sanitary Inspector.

At each public slaughter-house, the local Sanitary Inspector acts as Detention Officer in an efficient manner, and the Butchers show a ready willingness to co-operate with the officials.

Table of Slaughtering and Condemnations in the County for 1931.

SLAUGHTER HOUSE.	CATTLE.				SHEEP.				PIGS.				GOATS.	
	Killed.	Wholly Condemned.	Partially Condemned.	Weight (lbs.) of Meat and Offal.	Killed.	Wholly Condemned.	Partially Condemned.	Weight (lbs.) of Meat and Offal.	Killed.	Wholly Condemned.	Partially Condemned.	Weight (lbs.) of Meat and Offal.	Killed	Weight (lbs.) of Meat and Offal.
Aberchirder	288	2	1	1,392	24	—	—	—	32	—	—	—	—	—
Aberlour ..	344	1	—	631	228	—	1	4	64	—	—	—	—	—
Banff ..	922	8	12	5,816	496	4	1	244	59	1	—	121	—	—
Buckie ..	1553	18	167	14,875	831	2	30	176	66	2	17	392	—	—
Cullen ..	819	6	35	6,556	444	2	1	120	38	—	—	—	—	—
Dufftown	287	—	1	340	419	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Keith ..	2172	15	150	15,384	13,778	2	3	243	159	—	—	—	—	—
Macduff ..	442	3	4	2,359	44	2	—	82	1	—	—	—	—	—
Portsoy ..	226	—	2	23	155	3	—	129	19	—	—	—	—	—
Landward	261	2	1	1,058	308	—	—	—	117	—	—	—	2	—
TOTALS ..	7314	55	373	48,434	16,727	15	36	998	555	3	17	513	2	—

FOR COMPARATIVE INFORMATION THE TOTALS FOR 1930 ARE ANNEXED BELOW.

TOTAL (1930) 7632	36	55	28,487	13 357	15	1	897	309	1	—	128	—	—	—
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ROBERT M. DAVIDSON,  
Veterinary Inspector.





